

January 14, 2009

Technical Assistance Exchange Newsletter

A Weekly Update for Aging & Disability Resource Center and Nursing Home Diversion Programs and their Partners

*You must be logged in to the ADRC-TAE.org website to access newsletter links.
Contact Allison Yudt at The Lewin Group with questions: 703.269.5504*

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Save The Date!

Attention Nursing Home Diversion Grantees!

Save the Date for a Joint Administration on Aging & Department of Veterans Affairs National Meeting: February 24 - 25, 2009 in Boston, MA.

This in-person event will be a two-day meeting of Nursing Home Diversion partners from the aging and Veterans' networks. More details, including hotel information and a link to registration, will be announced soon!

Please note that this event is not open to the general public.

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NASUA Survey Reveals Need for Investment in Programs for Older Adults and Individuals with Disabilities

Nearly 70 percent of America's states are anticipating cuts in programs for older adults and individuals with disabilities in 2009, even as the demand for services rises. A NASUA survey, conducted in late November, found that nearly all the states are being overwhelmed by an increased demand for services. Nearly 85 percent of are experiencing more requests for transportation and home-delivered meals and 63 percent for home-heating assistance. While states are targeting administration for cuts in order to protect direct services, 7 in 10 indicated that they will be required to start restricting the duration of services, reducing eligibility, increasing cost sharing, cutting cash assistance and reducing home-delivered meals. The likely array of services affected includes Older Americans Act programs; disability programs; Medicaid; and home- and community-based services and supports.



The Wall Street Journal ran [an article](#) in November on a similar topic. It reports on at least 15 states, who faced with widening budget shortfalls, are rolling back support services for the elderly and disabled.

A press release summarizing the survey results is available on [NASUA's website](#). The results of NASUA's all states survey are available on [the ADRC website](#).

What Works In Chronic Care Management

A Commonwealth Fund supported study published in Health Affairs reports that Chronic care management programs that use multidisciplinary clinician teams and in-person communication can reduce hospital readmissions

The evidence base of what works in chronic care management programs is underdeveloped. To fill the gap, the authors pooled

and reanalyzed data from ten randomized clinical trials of heart failure care management programs to discern how program delivery methods contribute to patient outcomes.

The study reports that patients enrolled in programs using multi-disciplinary teams and in programs using in-person communication had significantly fewer hospital readmissions and readmission days than routine care patients had. Our study offers policymakers and health plan administrators important guideposts for developing an evidence base on which to build effective policy and programmatic initiatives for chronic care management.

The entire study is available on [the ADRC website](#).

Upcoming Technical Assistance Events

January Monthly Grantee Call

The Cash and Counseling National Program Office at Boston College will be leading this call, providing important information to address questions about fiscal management services in consumer-directed programs. 2007 NHD grantees may recall that we also addressed fiscal management services during a call last summer. Some of the content on this call will cover similar ground, but we will also focus on the topics of interest that have emerged, including the co-mingling of various funding sources. If you have specific questions that you would like to see addressed on the call, please send them in advance to Suzanne Crisp at Suzanne.crisp.1@bc.edu.

- **Topic:** Fiscal Intermediary Services
- **Date:** January 14, 2009
- **Time:** 2:00 - 3:30pm, Eastern
- **Toll-Free number:** 1-888-844-7278
- **Participant Passcode for phone:** 2695542 #
- **Webinar ID:** 828-812-510
- [Register in advance \(Recommended\)](#)
- Please visit [the Monthly Call page](#) on the ADRC website for more information, including presentation materials.

New Nursing Home Diversion Materials



In the last few weeks, we have added a number of new materials to the website related to the Nursing Home Diversion Modernization initiative. You can find these resources under Resources by Topic and we've also highlighted a few new resource pages below.

Over the next few weeks, you will notice some additional changes to the website. The main content on the website will remain the same, but there will be a new home page and some new pages devoted to ADRC and NHD initiatives to make it easier for all of

